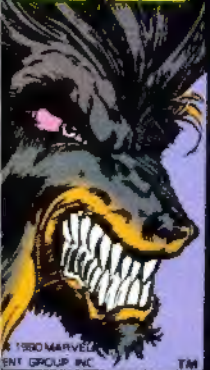


MARVEL
COMICS

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COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

AND THE
HULK



PLUS 3 MORE
ALL-NEW
FEATURES!

BUT WILL
THEY MEET
AS FRIENDS
OR FOES?!

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WOLVERINE 1

On The Road
Part 1

"LONG AND WINDING ROAD"

Murder, mystery and mistaken identity—it had to happen!
Two of mighty Marvel's greatest characters together again in a sensational storyline that's bound to stagger the senses.
Don't be late, 'cause the battle is about to begin!

Writer — MICHAEL HIGGINS
Penciler — DAVE ROSS
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Letterer — TODD KLEIN
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WEREWOLF 9

Children of the Beast
Part 1

"THE MOON IS A HARSH MISTRESS"

Afflicted with lycanthropy—the curse of the werewolf—by his father's involvement with an arcane book of forbidden knowledge called *THE DARKHOLD*, Jack Russell has returned to his home in Los Angeles to begin his final struggle with the beast within himself.

Writer — LEN KAMINSKI
Penciler — JIM FRY
Inker — BRAD JOYCE
Letterer — BRAD JOYCE
Colorist — GREGORY WRIGHT

STINGRAY 17

Family Matters
PART 2

"CONFRONTATION"

They thought Tiger Shark was dying, so they brought him to his brother-in-law, noted Oceanographer Dr. Walter Newell, in hopes of finding a cure.
But Tiger Shark was only faking it, and now—unless Newell acts, and acts quickly—everyone else may be dying instead!

Writer — LEN WEIN
Penciler — JIM FERN
Inker — MIKE DeCARLO
Letterer — TIM HARKINS
Colorist — BRAD VANCATA

SHROUD 25

"THE DARK LIGHT OF KALI"

Blinded by the branding iron of the mysterious Cult of Kali, the Shroud gained a mystical extra-sensory perception and the power to manipulate darkness. Pretending to be a criminal gang, the Shroud leads his band of misfits—the Night Shift—in his battle against the Los Angeles underworld!

Plot — STEVE DITKO
Script — HOLLIS BRIGHT
Penciler — STEVE DITKO
Inker — BOB WIACEK
Letterer — MICHAEL HEISLER
Colorist — ED LAZELLARI

THE LONG AND WINDING ROAD

NICE
WEATHER...

...THAT IS, IF YOU
DON'T WANT TO
REMEMBER WHAT
IT FEELS LIKE
TO BE DRY!

CAME DOWN
HERE TO THE
CAROLINAS
LOOKING FOR
THE X-MEN.

REST OF THE
WORLD THINKS
THEY'RE DEAD.

I KNOW
BETTER.

I'M WOLVERINE!

I'M GONNA
FIND THEM!









JUST MY
LUCK!

DIDN'T EVEN KNOW THEY
HAD BEARS AROUND
THESE PARTS!



ONE THING'S FOR SURE.

THEY GOT AT LEAST ONE...



...OR, AT LEAST, THEY USED TO!



HOPE THIS GUY'S
STUNNED ENOUGH THAT
HE DIDN'T QUITE GRASP
WHAT WAS GOIN' ON!

CLAMS CAN BE DIFFICULT
TO EXPLAIN!



I DON'T WANT TO DO
ANYMORE EXPLAININ'.

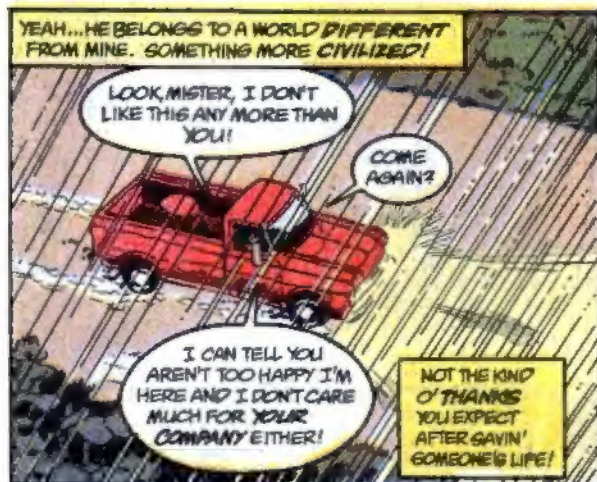
JUST TAKE
THIS GUY TO
THE HOSPITAL
AND THE
WHOLE THING'S
BEHIND ME!



WHAT IN THE WORLD IS A GUY LIKE THAT DOIN' OUT HERE TO BEGIN WITH?

FUNNY GUY!

LOOKS LIKE ONE O' THOSE INTELLECTUAL TYPES. PROBABLY LED A PAMPERED LIFE!



YEAH... HE BELONGS TO A WORLD DIFFERENT FROM MINE. SOMETHING MORE CIVILIZED!

LOOK, MISTER, I DON'T LIKE THIS ANY MORE THAN YOU!

COME AGAIN?

I CAN TELL YOU AREN'T TOO HAPPY I'M HERE AND I DON'T CARE MUCH FOR YOUR COMPANY EITHER!

NOT THE KIND O' THANKS YOU EXPECT AFTER GAVIN' SOMEONE'S LIFE!



LET ME MAKE THINGS EASIER FOR YOU!

PULL OVER AND LET ME OUT!

LOOK, BUB, YOU GOTTA BE KIDDIN' ME!
THERE'S NOTHIN' HERE BUT--

I SAID, LET ME OUT!



OKAY, PAL, IF THAT'S THE WAY YOU WANT IT.

GOOD RIDDANCE!

I'VE MET ALL KINDS...



...BUT THIS GUY I CAN'T FIGURE!

I DECIDE NOT TO BOTHER TRYING.



I'LL WAIT A WHILE. MAYBE HE'LL COME TO HIS SENSES!

IF NOT... HE'S FINISHED AS FAR AS I'M CONCERNED!

HE WON'T
BOTHER ME
ANY MORE!



SNIK



NO!
NOOOOO!

SHORTLY...

COULDN'T LET HIM JUST
WANDER OFF LIKE THAT.

FOLLOWED HIS
SCENT HERE...

...BUT NOW, EVEN
THAT'S GONE!

NOTHIN' MORE FOR
ME TO DO HERE.

MIGHT AS WELL
GET BACK ON
THE ROAD AGAIN.

HEY...WATPAMINNI!

THAT SCENT!

IT CAN'T BE.

IT IS!

YEP, IT LOOKS LIKE MY LUCKY DAY!

I'M GONNA HAVE
TO FIGHT--

--THE
HULK!



WEREWOLF

BY NIGHT...

CHILDREN OF THE BEAST
Chapter 3:
THE MOON'S HARSH MISTRESS

**OKAY, HERE'S
THE STORY--**

--IT ALL STARTED, I GUESS,
WITH THE NIGHTMARE. IN IT,
I'M RUNNING NAKED THROUGH
A STRANGE, WILD FOREST
OF SHADOWS...

I'M LOST

TERRELL

ALONE.

AND...

..SOMETHING'S...

BEHIND.

...ME!

2004

SILVERED
LIGHTNING
FLASHES
TOWARD
MY THROAT..

**DIE,
MONSTER,
DIE!**

AAAAA!

--AND THEN IT'S GONE,
SHATTERED BY AN EXPLOSION
OF CRISP BLACK WINGS THAT
FLAP AND RUSTLE WITH A
SOUND LIKE THE APPLAUSE
OF THE DEAD...

WELL, YOU GET
THE IDEA.

THEN, GUESS WHO
DECIDED TO DROP
IN...?

MY FATHER. HE'D SEEN
BETTER DAYS. THEN
AGAIN, HE WAS PRETTY
SPRY-- I MEAN, FOR A
DEAD GUY.

HOW... COME...
YOU... NEVER...
...CALL?

SON...?

GAH!

UM.

ROWF!
GET HIM!

THE BEAST
MUST DIE!

OH, YEAH. THAT'S
WHEN THE RABID
DOGS SHOWED
UP.

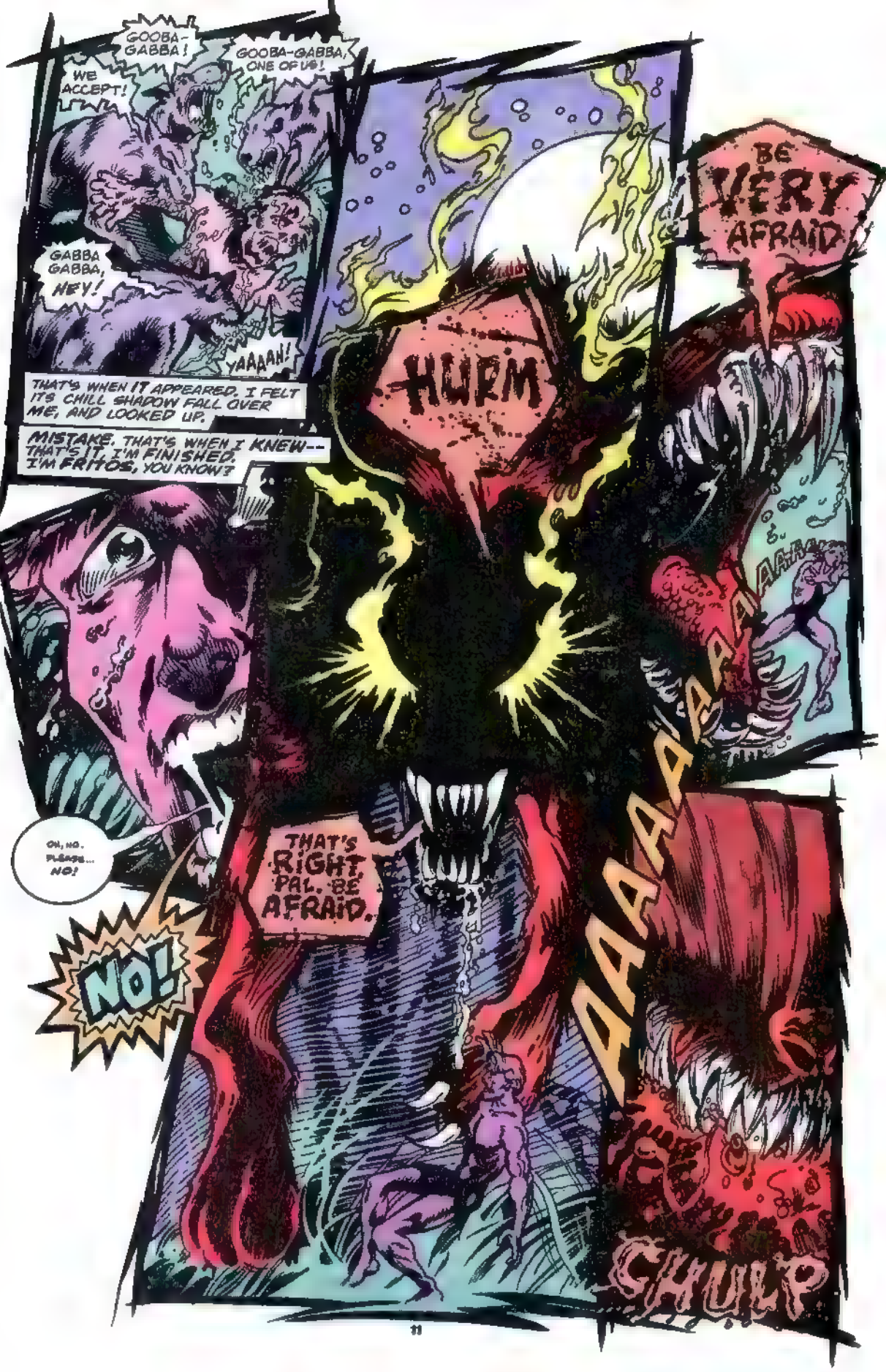
I MEAN, EVERY-
BODY KNOWS
YOU CAN'T HAVE
A DECENT NIGHT-
MARE WITHOUT
RABID DOGS.

ARR!

RR!

ROWF!

RR!



GOOBA-GABBA!

GOOBA-GABBA, ONE OF US!

WE ACCEPT!

GABBA GABBA, HEY!

YAAAAH!

THAT'S WHEN IT APPEARED. I FELT ITS CHILL SHADOW FALL OVER ME, AND LOOKED UP.

MISTAKE. THAT'S WHEN I KNEW-- THAT'S IT, I'M FINISHED. I'M FRITOS, YOU KNOW?

HURM

BE VERY AFRAID

AAAAA

OH, NO. PLEASE... NO!

NO!

THAT'S RIGHT, PAL. BE AFRAID.

AAAAA

CHULP

SO MUCH FOR
PLEASANT DREAMS...

AAA!

WHICH WASN'T TERRIBLY
SURPRISING, CONSIDERING
WHERE I'D PICKED TO
DOZE OFF.

I CALLED IT
THE HOWLING
ROOM

IT WAS WHERE
I WENT TO
RESTRAIN
MYSELF DURING
THE FULL MOON.

MRF

MY NAME'S
RUSSELL.
I CARRY
A CURSE.

LYCANTHROPY RUNS IN MY
FAMILY. ON MY EIGHTEENTH
BIRTHDAY, I INHERITED IT
FROM MY DAD.

IT WAS ABOUT AS
MUCH FUN AS YOU'D
EXPECT.

INSURANCE.

REMY PRIME
NO: 675-18
Russell J.
Take as direct
Mr. M. Morla

DESPITE MY BEST EFFORTS,
THE WEREWOLF HAD
GOTTEN LOOSE BEFORE.

IT WASN'T A
PRETTY SIGHT.

THERE WAS A TIME WHEN I THOUGHT I
HAD IT LICKED. SOMETIMES I RUN WITH
A STRANGE CROWD CALLED THE NIGHT
SHIFT... THEY'RE SORT OF LIKE STEPHEN
KING'S VERSION OF THE AVENGERS.

ONE OF THEM--DANSEN MACABRE
CONTROLS MINDS. FOR A WHILE, SHE
KEPT THE WEREWOLF IN LINE
DURING THE FULL MOON.

I GUESS HE'D BUILT UP A
TOLERANCE OR SOMETHING.

SO, AFTER THAT, I WENT BACK TO
LOCKING MYSELF UP SOMEPLACE
WHERE I COULD HIDE MY DIRTY
LITTLE SECRET FROM EVERYONE,
EXCEPT MYSELF.

AND HIM,
OF COURSE.

UNFORTUNATELY,
THE WEREWOLF
HAS VERY LITTLE
MIND TO CONTROL.

OOPS.

I THOUGHT IT WAS
A PRETTY LOUSY
DEAL, PERSONALLY.

AS FOR THE WEREWOLF,
WELL, WHO KNEW WHAT
HE THOUGHT.

THE
LIGHT
IS
COMING.

COMING TO
FREE ME
FROM THE
MAN.

I MINUTE.

I HAD MORE IMPORTANT
THINGS TO WORRY ABOUT.

I HAD TWO AND A HALF
MINUTES UNTIL THE
MONTHLY CONSUMMATION
OF MY ILLICIT AFFAIR
WITH AN OLDER WOMAN.

HATE THE MAN
THE MAN IS BAD.

THE MAN
MAKES ME BE
DARK.

10 SECONDS

SHE'S A COLD AND
DISTANT MISTRESS,
BUT I CAN'T SEEM TO
EVER BREAK FREE
OF HER.

RRRTA
RRP

AND SOMETIMES, IT
SEEMS ALL I EVER
DO IS WAIT FOR
HER TO SHOW UP.

05 SECONDS

40 SECONDS

I REMEMBER WHAT IT FELT LIKE
THOSE FIRST STIRRINGS OF THE
BEAST WITHIN MYSELF, THE
DARK THRILL ON THE EDGE
OF THE CHANGE...

WHY DOES
THE MAN
KEEP ME
LOCKED IN THE
DARK?

WHY?

WHY?

I WAS REVOLTED
BY THE WAY MY
BODY RESPONDED
SO EASILY...

I TOLD
MYSELF
I DIDN'T
ENJOY
THIS.

03 SECONDS

02 SECONDS

DID I?

I DIDN'T.

I SHUDDERED AS MY PALE LOVER'S GHOSTLY CARESSES BROUGHT MY TREMBLING BODY TO ITS DARK CLIMAX OF TRANSFORMATION.

AND THEN THE SEETHING FURY I'D KEPT BOTTLED UP FOR THE PAST MONTH EXPLODED FROM WITHIN ME IN AN ERUPTION OF RELEASE--

--AS THE WEREWOLF ESCAPED FROM THE DARK, SECRET DEPTHS OF MY BODY.

AHH

DUCK

MY MUSCLES SPASMED VIOLENTLY AS MY MIND WAS DROWNED IN A THICK HAZE OF ANIMAL PASSION.

WILDFIRE RED THOUGHTS FLASHED THROUGH MY MIND, BURNING AWAY ALL REASON--ALL CONTROL--LEAVING ONLY THE PRIMAL, RAVENOUS BEAST WITHIN.

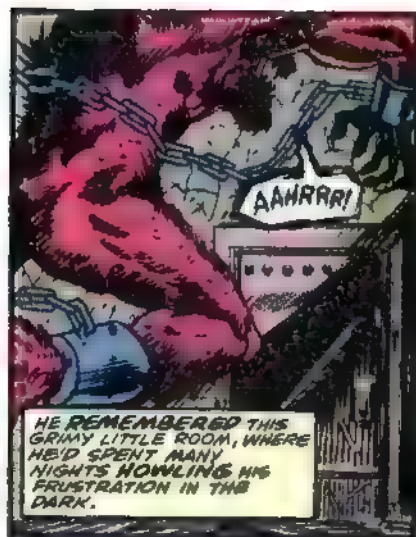
AAHHRRR

CRASH

I HATE IT WHEN THAT HAPPENS.

HRRRR

FIRST NIGHT: THE WEREWOLF OPENED HIS EYES FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A MONTH. HE DIDN'T LIKE WHAT HE SAW.



HE REMEMBERED THIS GRIMY LITTLE ROOM, WHERE HE'D SPENT MANY NIGHTS HOWLING HIS FRUSTRATION IN THE DARK.



HE ALSO REMEMBERED THAT SOMETIMES HE GOT OUT.



SOMETIMES, BUT NOT TONIGHT



THIS TIME, I HAD HIM TRAPPED.



HIS RESPONSE WAS THAT OF ANY TRAPPED ANIMAL--ESCAPE AT ANY COST.



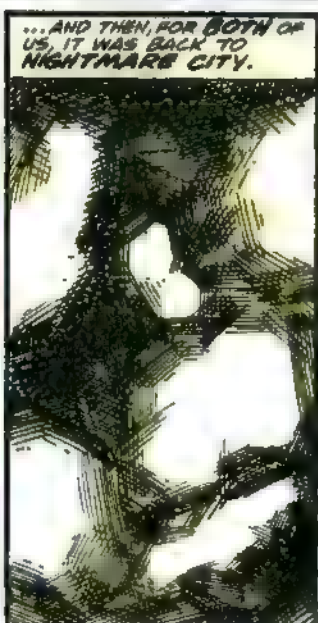
THAT'S WHEN HE STARTED GNAWING HIS OWN ARM OFF.



BUT BEFORE HE COULD FINISH--



--A 900 MILLIGRAM THORAZINE SLEDGE-HAMMER HIT HIM RIGHT BETWEEN THE EYES...



...AND THEN, FOR BOTH OF US, IT WAS BACK TO NIGHTMARE CITY.



EXCERPTED FROM THE TRIBULATIONS ARE NOW!, BY ISAIAH CURWEN, (PURIFICATION PRESS, 1988):

"IT WAS IN THE FOURTH YEAR OF MY HOLY WAR THAT I CAME TO THE DECADENT CITY OF LOS ANGELES IN SEARCH OF THE BEAST...

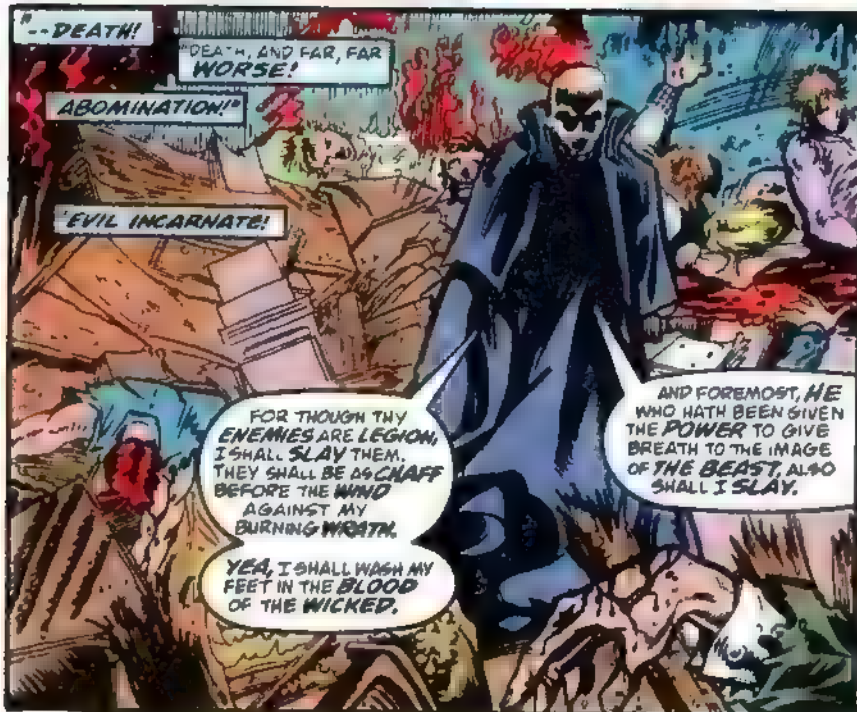


"I WALKED THE VILE
STREETS OF THAT
SODOM ON THE
PACIFIC, SURROUNDED
BY THE HANDWORKS
OF THE EVIL ONE.



HALLELUJAH!

"EVERYWHERE I FOUND
SIN. SIN AND--



--DEATH!

"DEATH, AND FAR, FAR
WORSE!

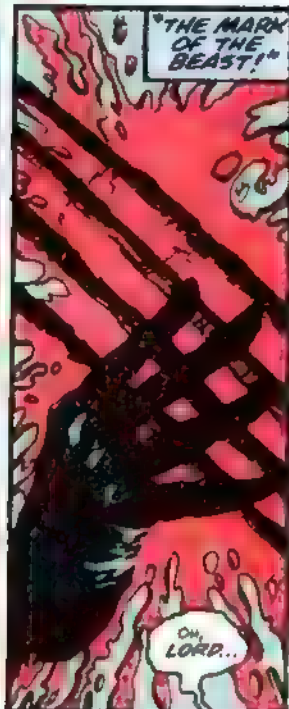
ABOMINATION!"

'EVIL INCARNATE!

FOR THOUGH THY
ENEMIES ARE LEGION,
I SHALL SLAY THEM.
THEY SHALL BE AS CHAFF
BEFORE THE WIND
AGAINST MY
BURNING WRATH.

YEA, I SHALL WASH MY
FEET IN THE BLOOD
OF THE WICKED.

AND FOREMOST, HE
WHO HATH BEEN GIVEN
THE POWER TO GIVE
BREATH TO THE IMAGE
OF THE BEAST, ALSO
SHALL I SLAY.



"THE MARK
OF THE
BEAST!"

OH,
LORD...



IT IT HURTS

THIS I
SWEAR.

PLEASE,
MISTUN?

MR.
HELP...
ME...

"I COULD NOT
HELP BUT TO
TAKE MERCY
ON THIS POOR
WRETCH. I
DID AS HE
BEGGED.

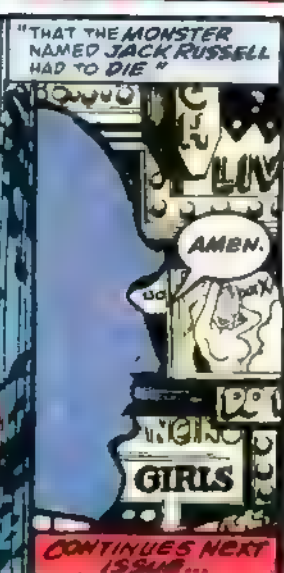


SHUUK

"I FREED HIM FROM
HIS TAINTED FLESH.



"I HAD FOUND PROOF
THAT MY MISSION
WAS JUST-- THE
MISSION THAT I
ALONE COULD
SEE



"THAT THE MONSTER
NAMED JACK RUSSELL
HAD TO DIE "

AMEN.

GIRLS

CONTINUES NEXT
ISSUE...

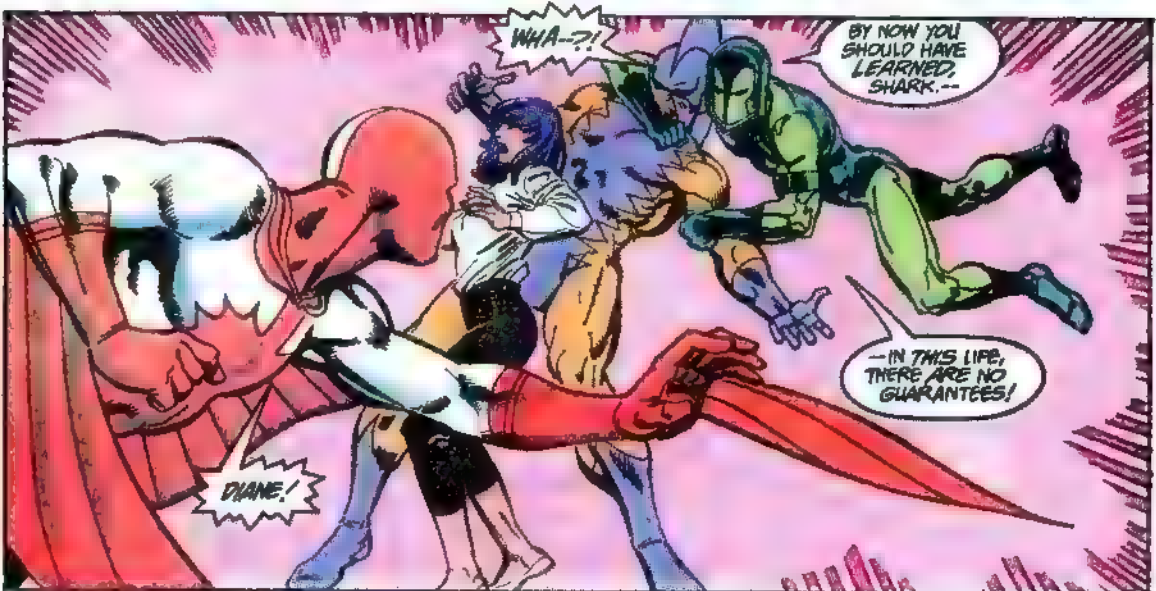
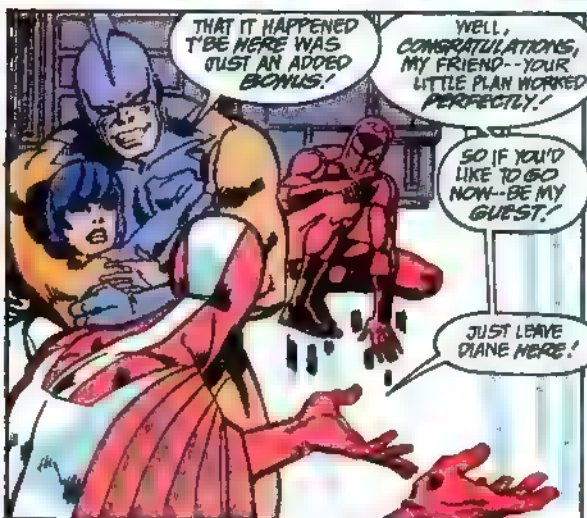
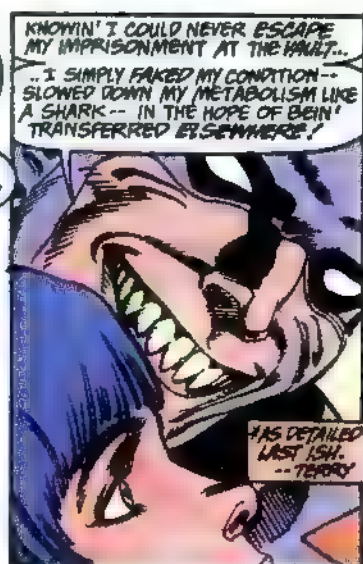
FAMILY MATTERS **PART 2** CONFRONTATION

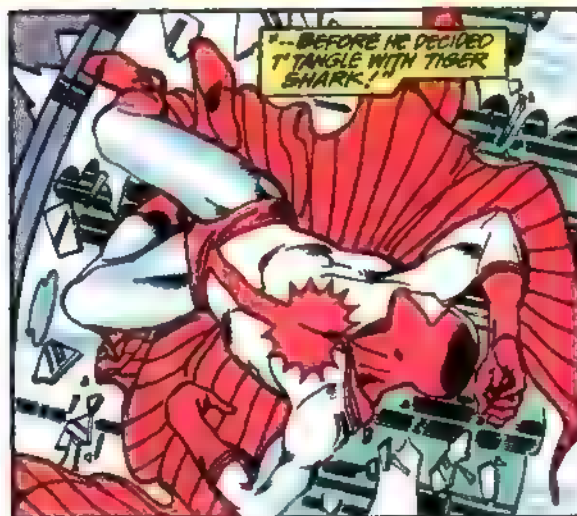
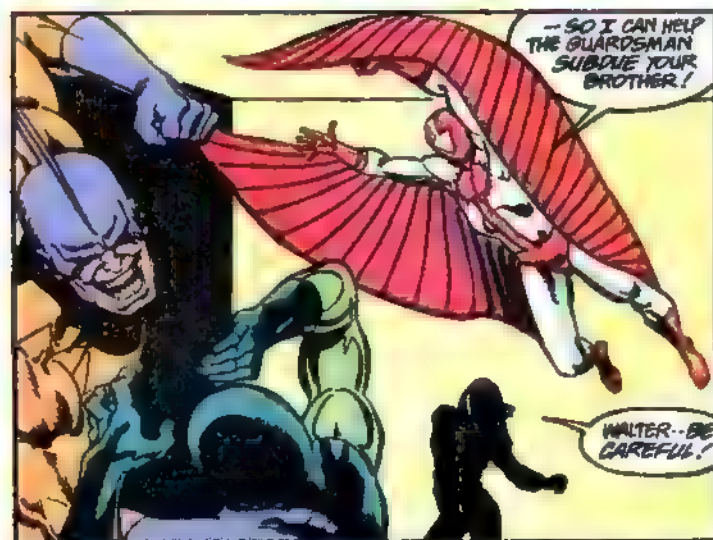
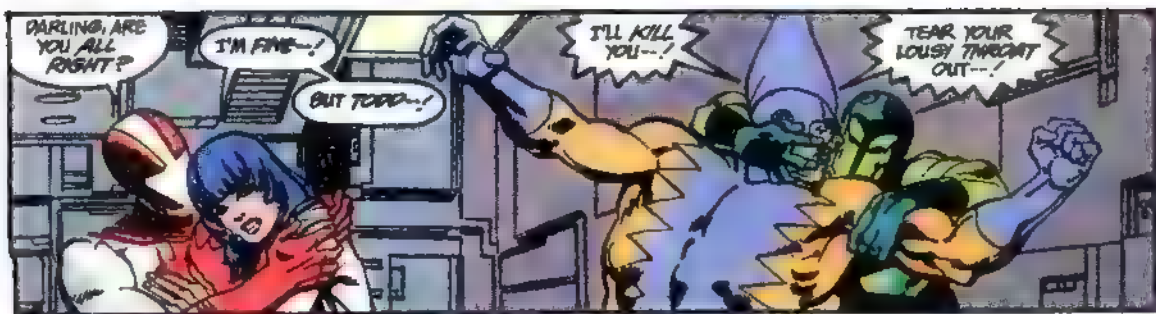
THE PLACE: A PRIVATELY-HELD ISLAND OFF THE FLORIDA COAST SPECIFICALLY THE OCEANOGRAPHIC INSTITUTE OWNED AND OPERATED BY DR. WALTER NEWELL.

THE PLAYERS: AN UNCONSCIOUS GUARDSMAN, NEWELL'S TERRIFIED WIFE, THE FORMER DIANE ARLISS; HER CAPTOR, THE SNARLING SEA-BRED SAVAGE WHO CALLS HIMSELF TIGER SHARK; AND NEWELL HIMSELF, CURRENTLY GLAD IN THE SUB-SEA EXO-SKELETON THAT TRANSFORMS HIM INTO...

STINGRAY









NO! YOU MUSTN'T DO THIS--!

YEAH?

GIMME ONE GOOD REASON WHY NOT?

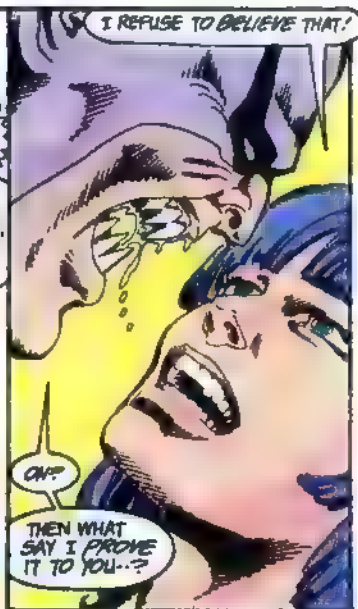


BECAUSE SOMEWHERE INSIDE YOU, THERE'S STILL A TRACE OF MY BROTHER TODD ARLISS--

-- STILL A SPARK OF HIS COMPASSION-- A HINT OF HIS HUMANITY!

WRONG, SISTER!

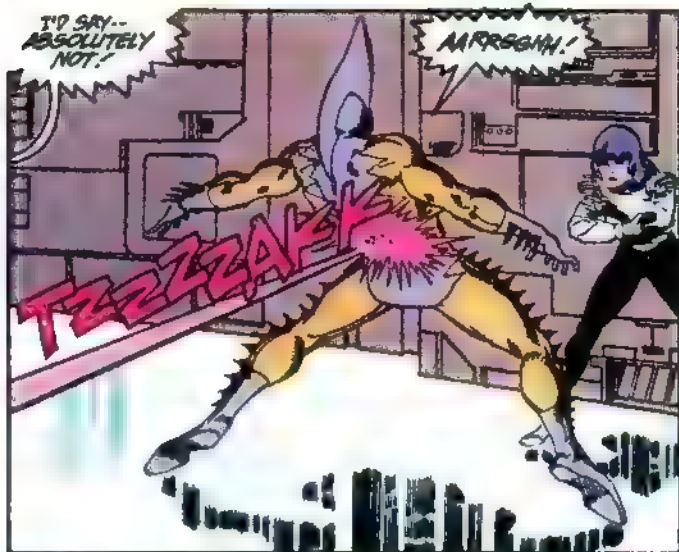
THE LATE DR. PORCAS MADE CERTAIN THERE WAS NOTHING HUMAN LEFT IN ME!



I REFUSE TO BELIEVE THAT!

ONE?

THEN WHAT SAY I PROVE IT TO YOU--?



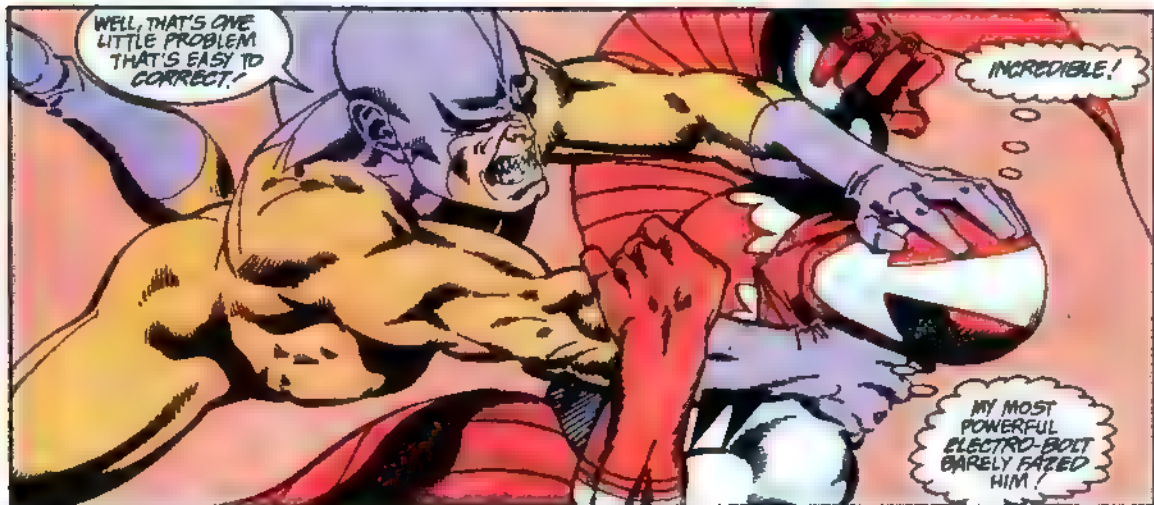
I'D SAY-- ABSOLUTELY NOT!

AARRGGH!



STILL BREATHIN', HUH?

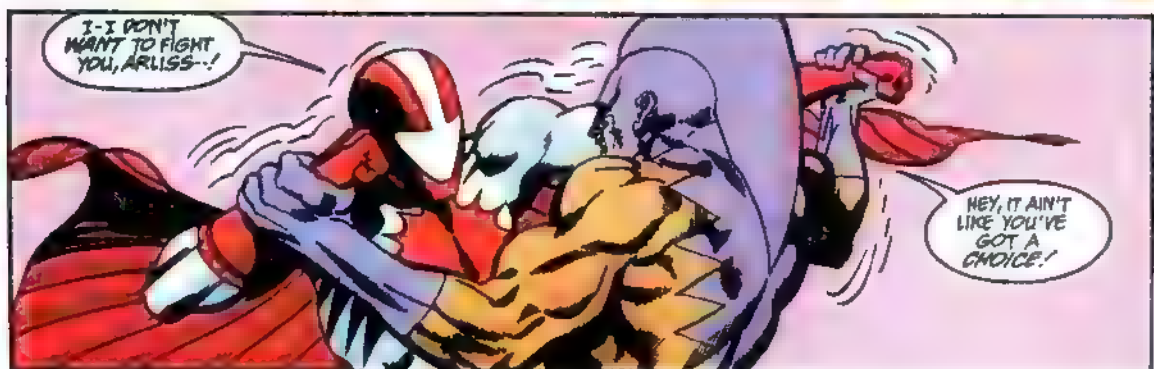
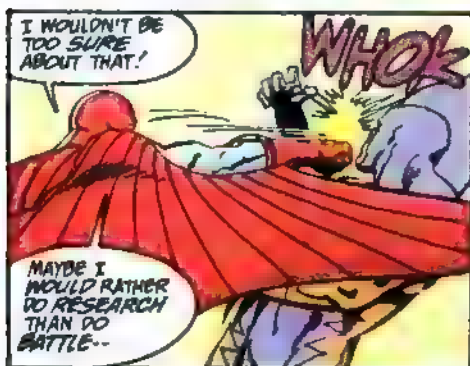
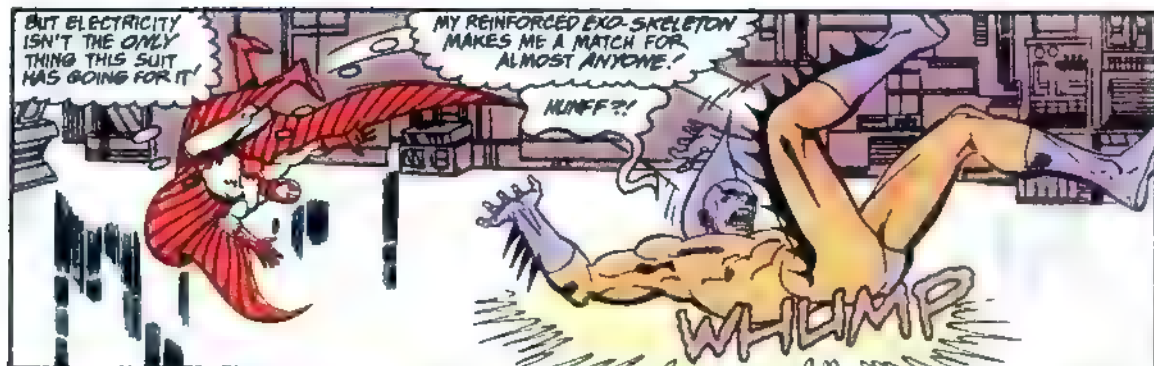
GUESS I SHOULD'VE MADE CERTAIN YOU WERE FINISHED!

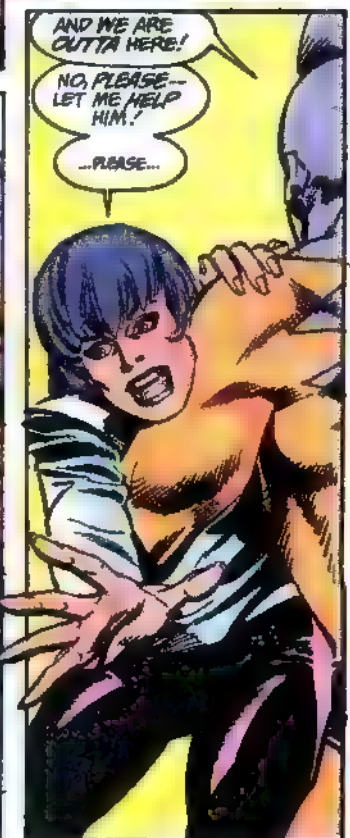
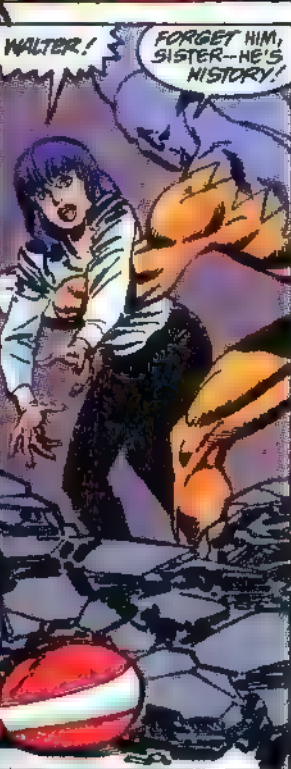
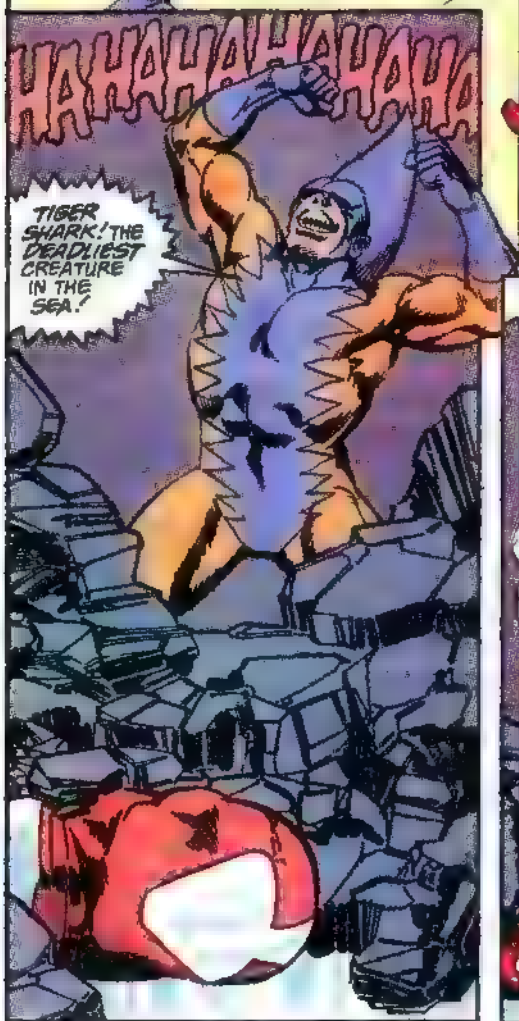
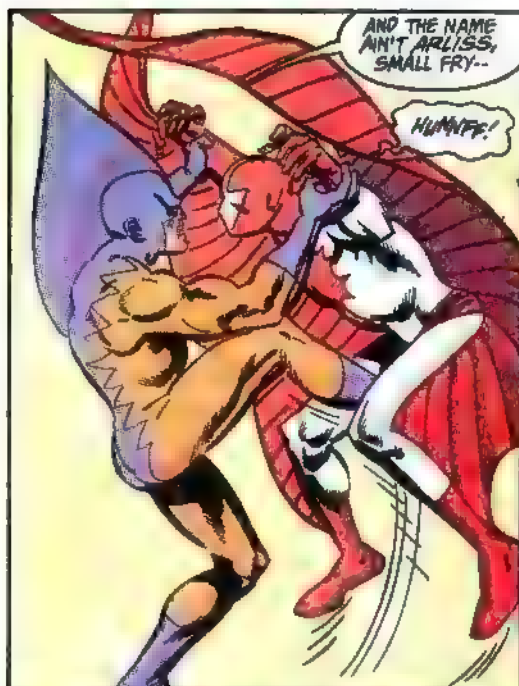


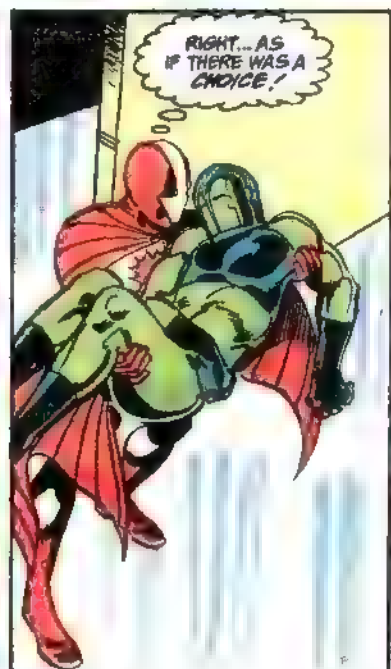
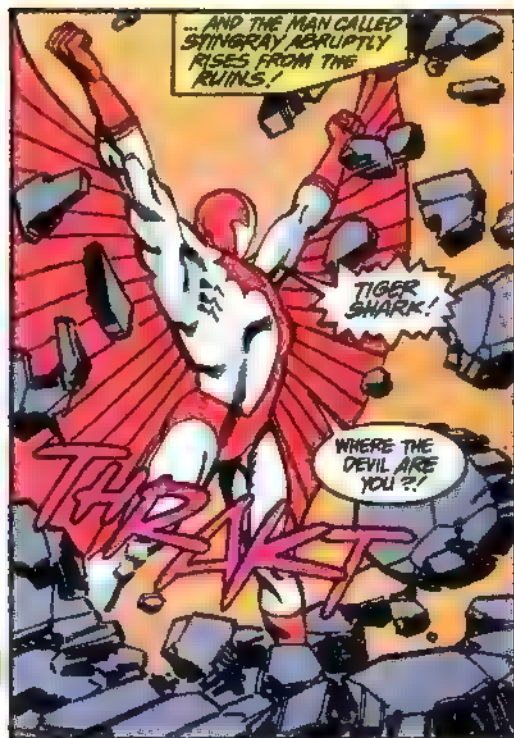
WELL, THAT'S ONE LITTLE PROBLEM THAT'S EASY TO CORRECT!

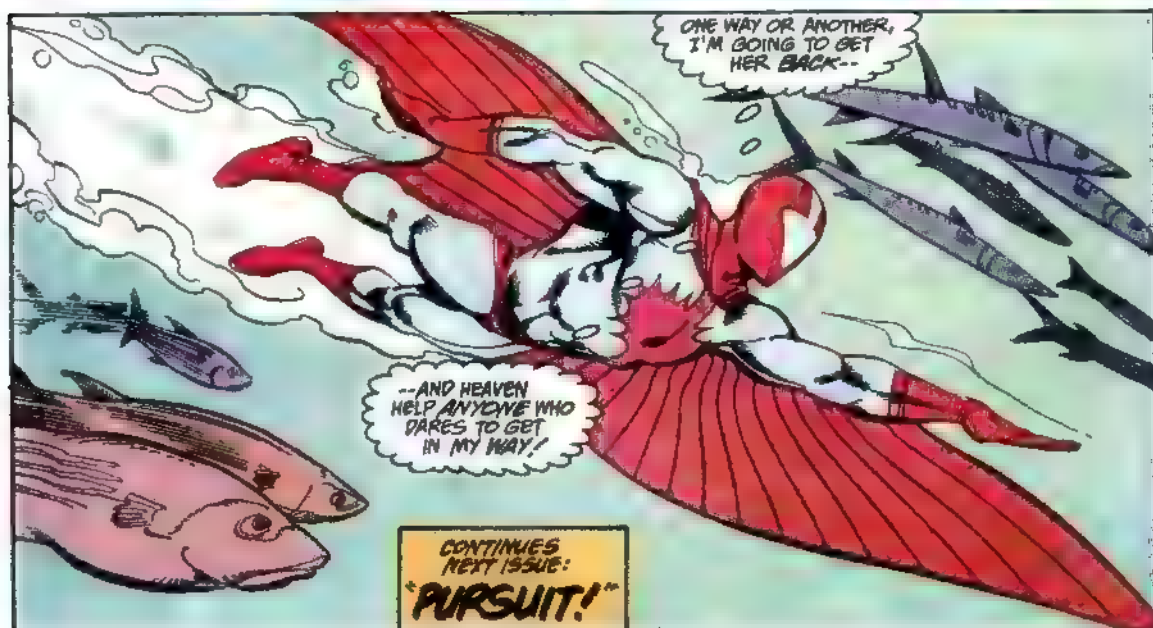
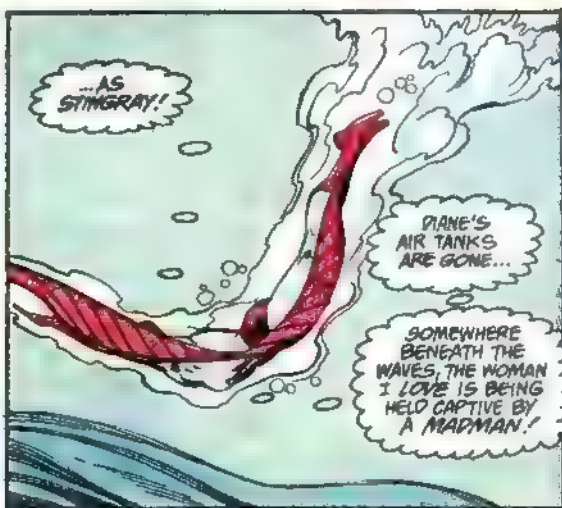
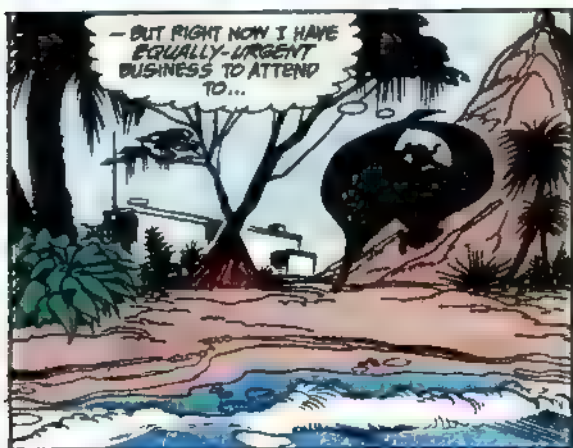
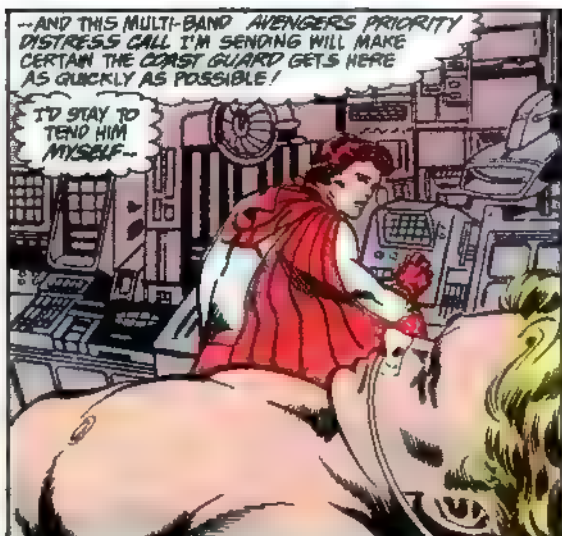
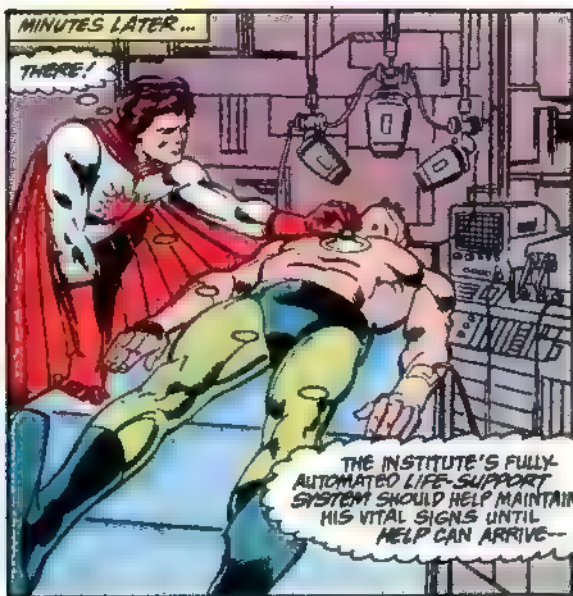
INCREDIBLE!

MY MOST POWERFUL ELECTRO-BOLT BARELY FAZED HIM!









THIS NEW EXHIBIT FEATURES A KALI STATUE I HAD TO SEE IF IT IS THE STATUE OF DARK POWERS, OR ONLY A CHEAP IMITATION. SOMEONE APPROACHES ...A KALI WORSHIPPER?

KALI MUST BE DESTROYED!

the dark light of kali

EVERYTHING ABOUT KALI IS EVIL!

WHAT'S SHE HOLDING?

I WILL SMASH ...

STOP!

WHAT? DARKNESS SURROUNDS ME?

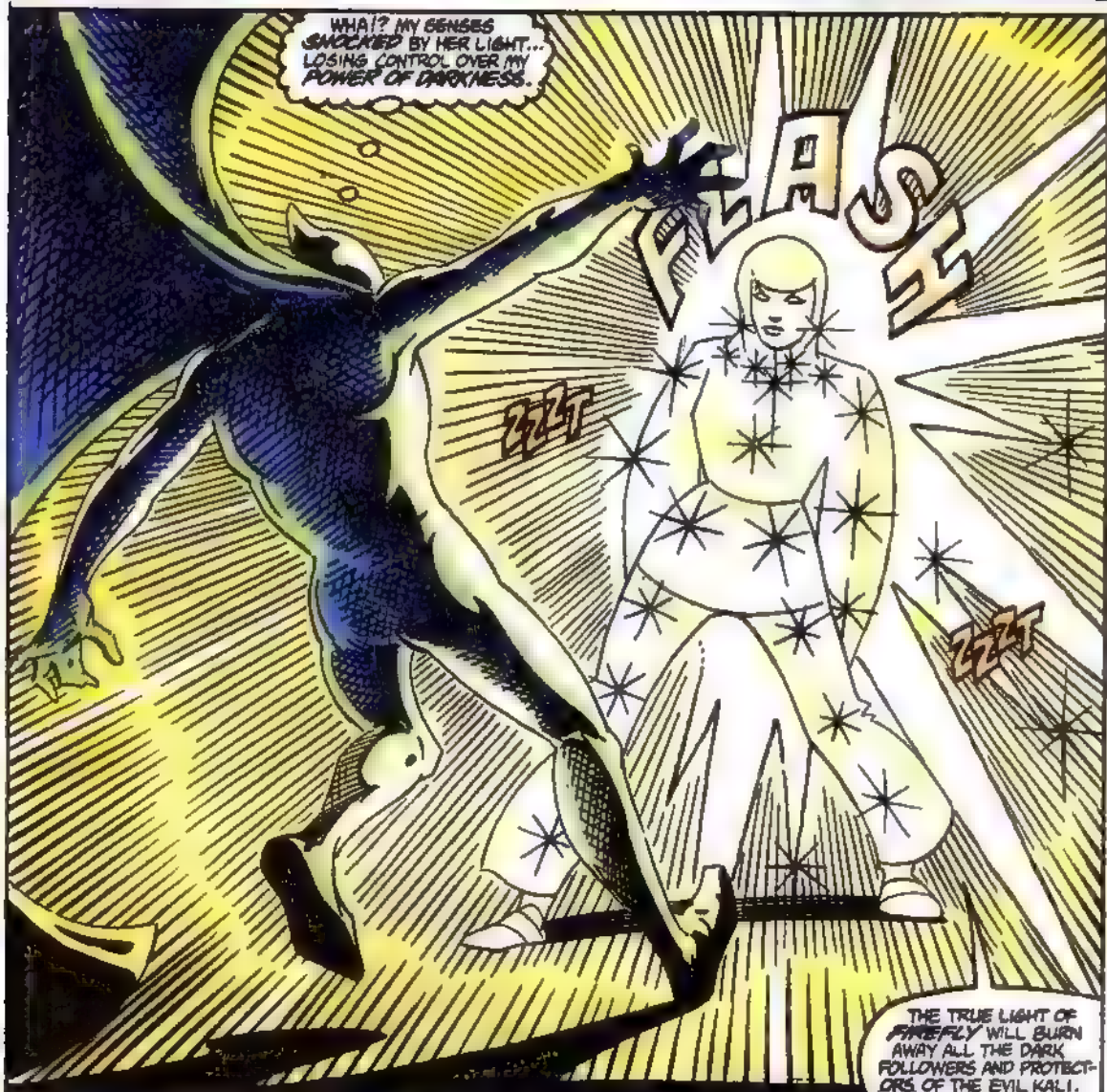
I SENSE A KALI PROTECTOR-- AN EVIL WORSHIPPER ...

...THE ENEMY!



THE SHROUD

AND...



THE MENTAL DISRUPTIONS FROM FIREFLYS LIGHT CAUSE MEMORY IMAGES TO FLASH BEFORE THE SHROUD LIKE A MOVIE SHOWN AT FAST SPEED...

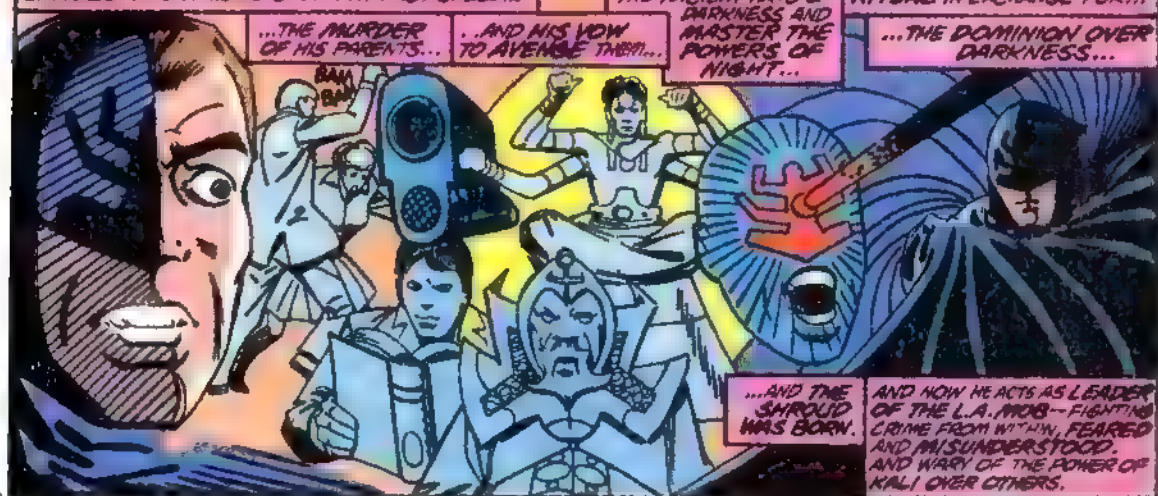
...JOINING THE CULT OF KALI TO LEARN THE ANCIENT ARTS OF DARKNESS AND MASTER THE POWERS OF NIGHT...

...ACCEPTING THE EXCRUCIATING PAIN OF THE BRANDING RITUAL IN EXCHANGE FOR...

...THE MURDER OF HIS PARENTS...

...AND HIS VOW TO AVENGE THEM...

...THE DOMINION OVER DARKNESS...



...AND THE SHROUD WAS BORN.

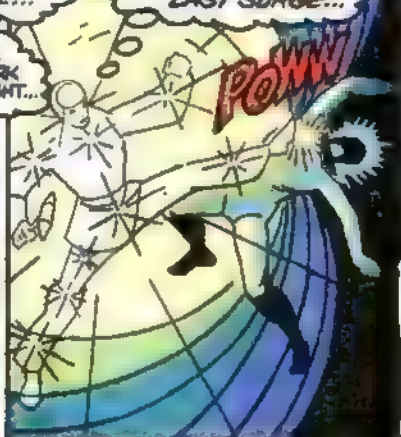
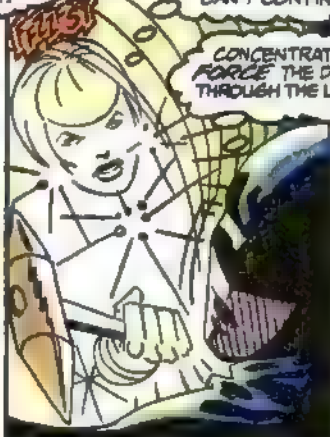
AND NOW HE ACTS AS LEADER OF THE L.A. MOB-- FIGHTING CRIME FROM WITHIN, FEARED AND MISUNDERSTOOD, AND WARY OF THE POWER OF KALI OVER OTHERS.

HOW APPROPRIATE-- THE DEVIL OF DARKNESS. MAY KALI WITNESS YOUR DEATH!

...BACK... BUT I CAN'T GENERATE ENOUGH DARK MESS... STILL DISRUPTED BY HER LIGHT... I MUST TRY TO...

WAIT! NO! HE'S MAKING PROGRESS WITH HIS POWER OF NIGHT-- I'M LOSING THE ADVANTAGE. CAN'T CONTINUE...

MUST RETREAT FOR NOW, I'M BURNING OUT. MUST RECHARGE-- BUT ONE LAST SURGE...



...DON'T KNOW WHAT HIT ME, AL. YEAH, I'M OKAY.

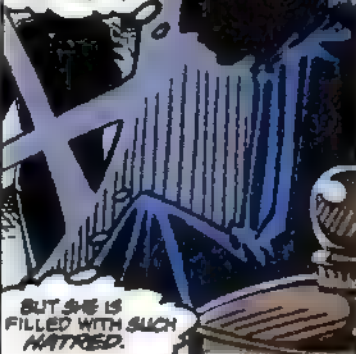
NOTHING DISTURBED OR MISSING.

BETTER CALL MR. KSAVANG ANYWAY. THE EXHIBIT OWNER WILL DEFINITELY WANT TO KNOW.

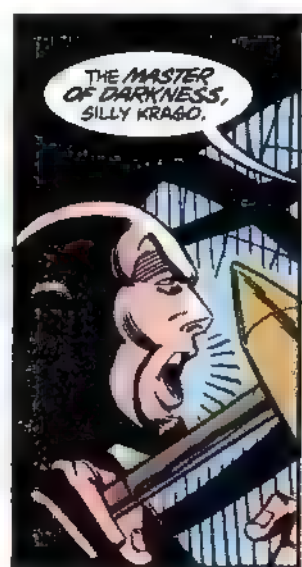
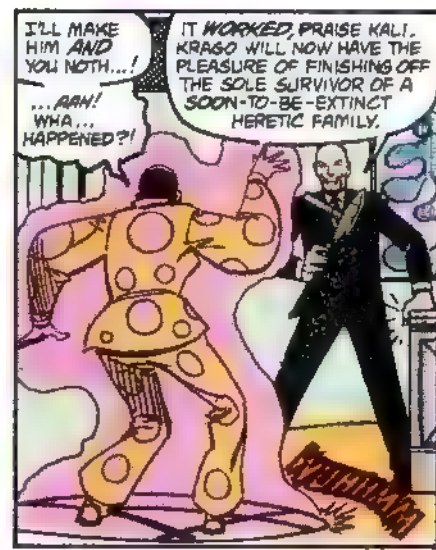
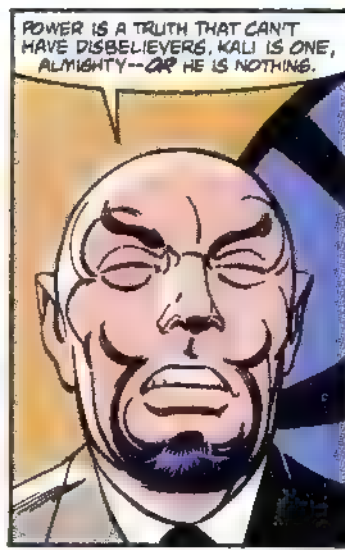
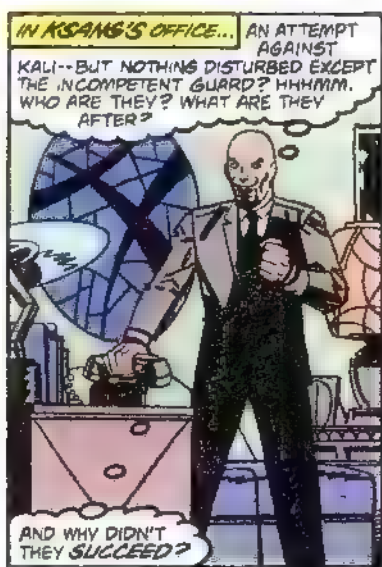


WHERE IS SHE FROM? I RECALL A MYTH-- RUMORS ABOUT A RENEGADE KALI CULT OF LIGHT?

CAN SHE BE MY POSITIVE OPPOSITE? ARE OUR FORCES MEANT TO BE UNIFIED?



BUT SHE IS FILLED WITH SUCH HATRED.





WHA?! THEY'RE GONE.
DISAPPEARED!

BOTH LIGHT AND
DARK-- THE REAL
POWER OF KALI!



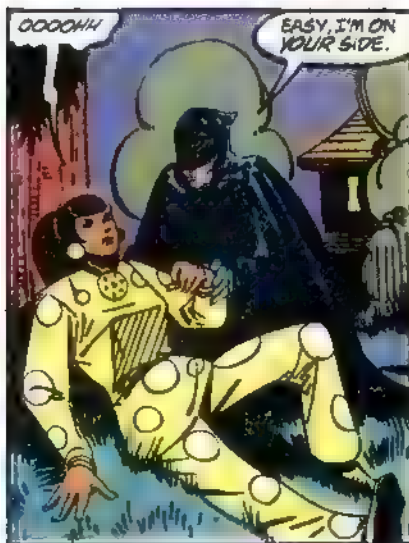
THEIR UNIFIED STRENGTH
IS A DOUBLE THREAT BUT
THEY DO NOT POSSESS
ALL POWER.

NO, NOT ALL!



TOGETHER, KALI, WE WILL EXTINGUISH
THEM! DESTROY OUR MOST DANGEROUS
OPPOSITION.

THEY MAY HAVE THE POWERS
OF LIGHT AND DARK BUT THEY
LACK OUR DISCIPLINE AND
DEADLY VISION.



OOOOHH

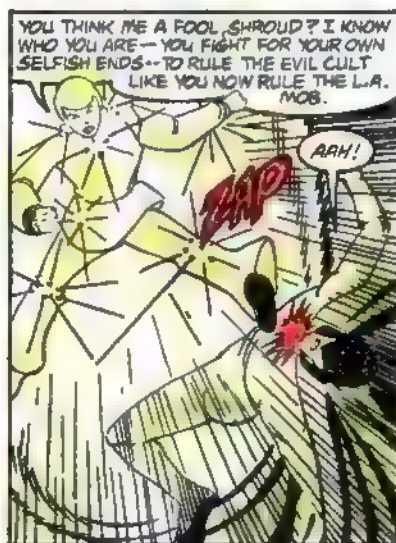
EASY, I'M ON
YOUR SIDE.



NO, THE DARK CORRUPTION OF
KALI MAKES YOU A LIAR...

...THE
ENEMY!

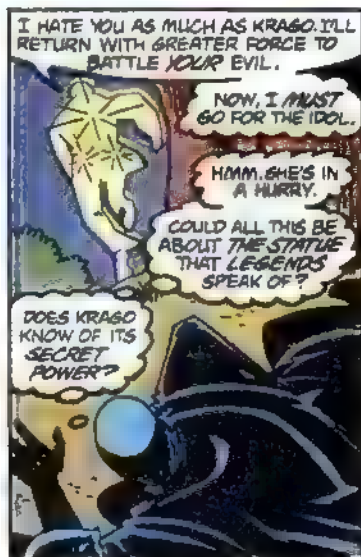
BOOM



YOU THINK ME A FOOL, SHROUD? I KNOW
WHO YOU ARE-- YOU FIGHT FOR YOUR OWN
SELFISH ENDS-- TO RULE THE EVIL CULT
LIKE YOU NOW RULE THE L.A.
MOB.

AAH!

BOOM



I HATE YOU AS MUCH AS KRAGO. I'LL
RETURN WITH GREATER FORCE TO
BATTLE YOUR EVIL.

NOW, I MUST
GO FOR THE IDOL...

HMM, SHE'S IN
A HURRY.

COULD ALL THIS BE
ABOUT THE STATUE
THAT LEGENDS
SPEAK OF?

DOES KRAGO
KNOW OF ITS
SECRET
POWER?

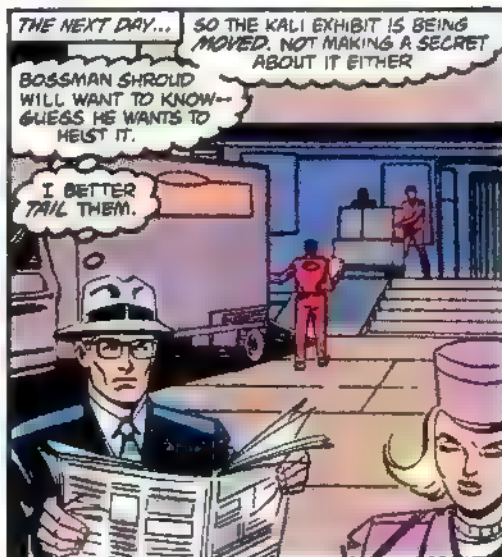


I HOPED TO MAKE HER
AN ALLY BUT SHE IS SO
BLINDED BY RAGE.

I UNDERSTAND HER PAIN.
SHE LOST HER FAMILY TO
KALI, LIKE ME--

--AND SACRIFICED HER-
SELF IN EXCHANGE FOR
POWER... LIKE ME. I,
DARKNESS. SHE, LIGHT.

BUT SHE IS
UNBIDDABLE.
SHE MUST LEARN
TO TAME HER
POWER, HER
ANGER.

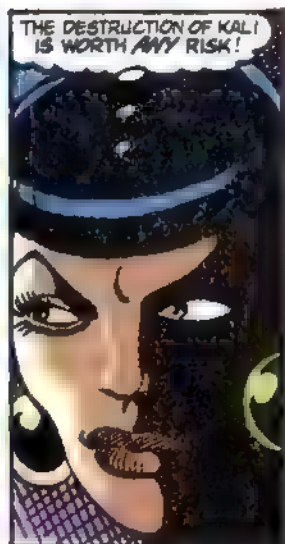
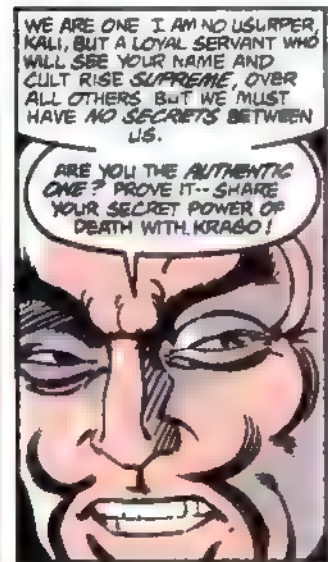


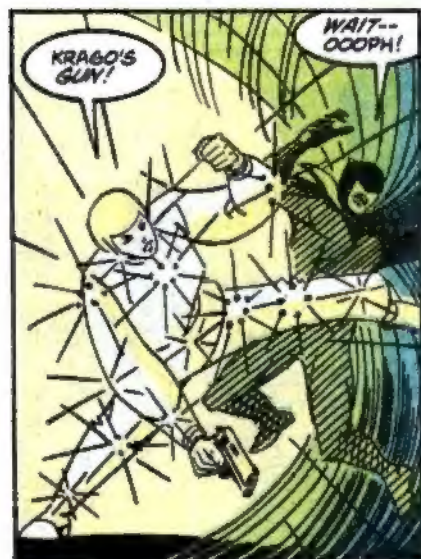
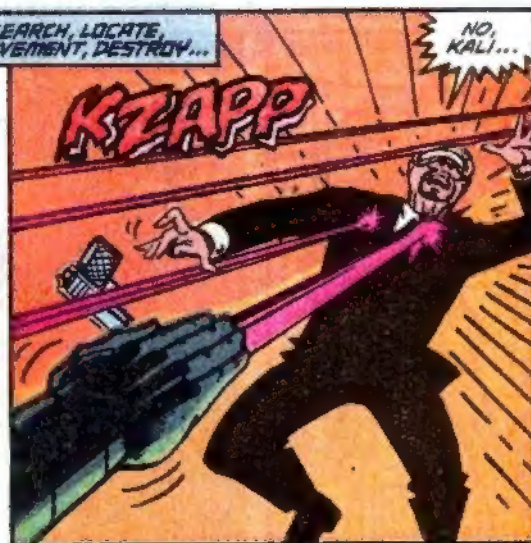
THE NEXT DAY...

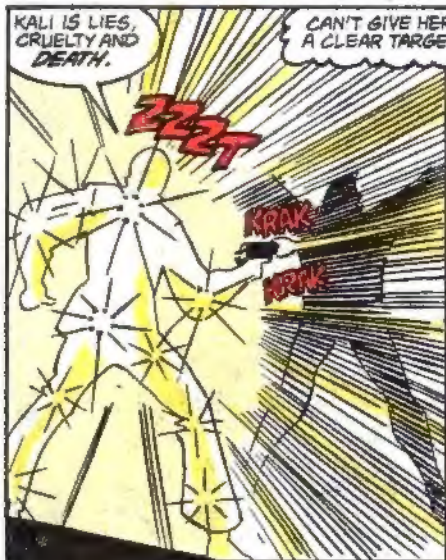
SO THE KALI EXHIBIT IS BEING
MOVED. NOT MAKING A SECRET
ABOUT IT EITHER

BOSSMAN SHROUD
WILL WANT TO KNOW--
GUESS HE WANTS TO
HEIST IT.

I BETTER
TAIL THEM.







CAN'T GIVE HER A CLEAR TARGET...

...AND CAN'T RISK ATTACKING HER WITH FULL FORCE.

BURNING OUT.

COULD LOSE ALL POWERS OF LIGHT FOREVER...

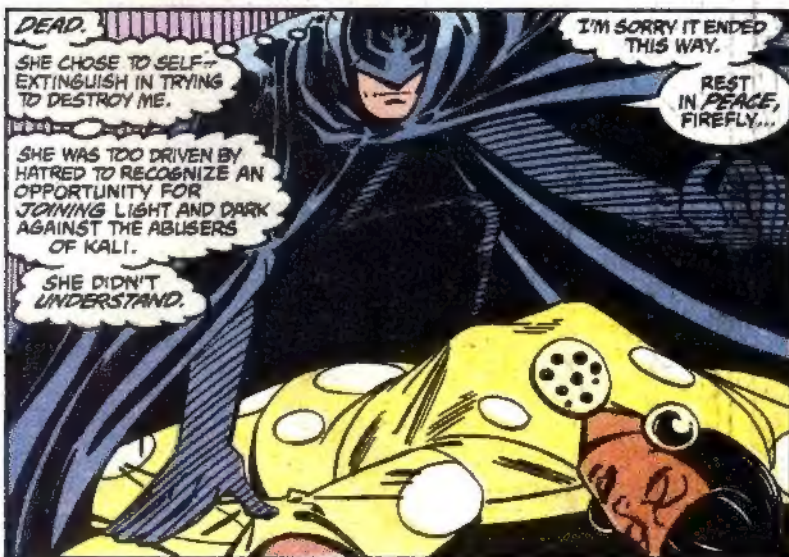
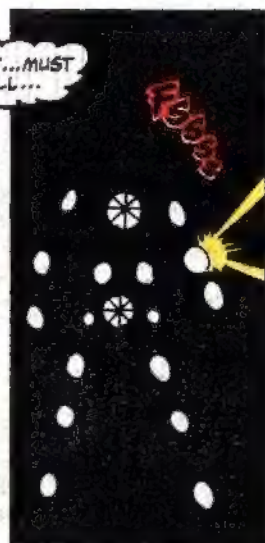
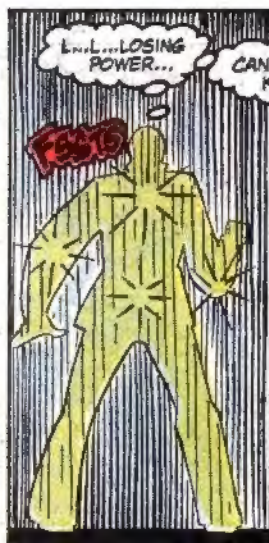
--BUT I WON'T NEED IT AFTER THE AGENT OF DARKNESS IS DEAD.

I NEED MORE BULLETS...

...BETTER AIM...

...MORE POWER!

CAN'T LET UP.



MARVEL READERS PRESENT

c/o MARVEL COMICS GROUP 387 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y. 10016

Attention correspondents: All letters to be considered for publication must include your name and address though we will withhold that info by request!

TERRY KAVANAGH
Editor

KELLY CORVESE
Assistant Editor

Dear Marvel,

Re: MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #45:
Wolverine: I think this story is coming along quite nicely. The art and coloring are excellent, and the storyline is great. I really like the idea of the Black and White Shadows both being from inside a human being. This story has definitely been the highlight of MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS.

Wonder Man: Thank you for this story with my favorite Avenger. When I saw the first issue with this story in it on the newsstand I couldn't wait to buy it. When I finally read it, I wasn't disappointed. It is excellent.

Hulk: This was a fine story, with both good art and coloring, but I think it could have been better.

Shooting Star: I've never really been a fan of the Rangers, but after reading this story I think differently. I really think that this was the best story this issue. Shooting Star had much more personality than I've ever seen her with before. The plot was great, the color was fantastic and the art was sensational. All in all, this was one of the best comics I've read all year. MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS is my third favorite comic next to SPIDER-MAN and WHAT IF-?. I hope you guys keep up the good work! Bye.

Jeremy Lamb
(Address withheld by request)

We will keep up the good work, Jeremy, and we vow right now that we'll try to overtake all of the SPIDER-MAN titles as well as WHAT IF-? to become number one in your heart. Just stay with us, you won't be disappointed.

Dear Terry,

This next sentence is for all you people who don't like the one-parters: Go seek some personal help! Now I know what you're going to say, that everybody has a right to their own opinion. Well, they've stated theirs, so now I've stated mine. On to the comments on issues #45 and #46:

1. The Wolverine story was pretty good. I really like mutants and collect all of the mutant titles but let's face facts, there's more to life than mutants. So after this one, I hope there's not another Wolverine story for a long time.

2. The Wonder Man story was pretty good too, but it ended sort of quickly.

3. The Hulk story was really great. I just hope it wasn't making fun of professional wrestling.

4. The Shooting Star story was really, really great. Only shouldn't the lyrics be "Girls just wanna have fun"?

And as for issue #46:

1. Same statement as before for the Wolverine story.

2. The Devil Slayer story looks totally awesome.

3 & 4. The Aquarian and Sub-Mariner stories were pretty good. I really have only one problem with your book: In issue #45, the inside

front cover stated that the Wolverine story was part 7 of 10, but in issue #46, it was part 9 of 10. Please explain.

Kenneth Quist
P.O. Box 541
Green River, UT 84525

We just have three things to say to you Kenneth:

1. Thanks for all your kind words.
2. We would never dare to make fun of professional wrestling. That is a sport which must be taken seriously. Bite your tongue!
3. That problem on the inside front cover was what we on the inside call a mistake, okay? You caught us. We hoped no one would notice, but you had to bring it up. Thanks a lot, Kenneth. We just hope no one else noticed.

Dear Terry,

MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #45 was great, but at the beginning of the Wolverine story, it says part 7 of 10 when it was really 8 of 10, but it doesn't matter, it was great anyway.

Wolverine: It was really exciting. At first I thought the Shadows would be generic villains, but I was wrong. They're sure giving Wolverine a run for his money.

Wonder-Man: I think this is the best series I've ever read in MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS. It finally showed how he got all crazy because of this woman, but eventually he came back to the Avengers. His matches against the Beast and Iron Man were great.

Hulk: Very funny and creative. I loved the way you got the Hulk in the wrestling ring. The ending was really funny with the Hulkster falling into the guy's house. Excellent work, guys.

Shooting Star: Very good story. This is the first time I've seen her in a comic, and I really hope we haven't seen the last of her. I look forward to seeing not only her, but the team that worked on the story too, in the future.

All in all, except for the little mistake on the first page, thanks for a great issue.

Jon Camp
40316 N. Fox Dr.
Antioch, IL 60002

Gee, you had to ruin a good complimentary letter by bringing up our tiny little mistake again, Jon. Well, we know who our real fans are, right, Charles. . . ?

Dear Presenters,

After reading issues #45 and #46 of MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS, a few words come to mind: overused and denigrated for starters. Scan the contents of these two issues, the Incredible Hulk one-shot and the ongoing Wolverine series had to be the two worst stories of both those issues. I would have to say that characters that have their own books and/or are in other team books are just too overused to do much good in a title like MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS.

Wolverine fights black vs. white in a battle against good and evil that could have been told in half the installments.

The Hulk story helps to answer the burning question, who came first, the Hulk or the Hulkster—aaarrggggghhh!!

The Wonder-Man series had a good ending because it helped Simon to rebuild some confidence in himself.

The Shooting Star tale gave us a taste of a minority in comics, a female, western style hero. A nice change of pace.

Devil Slayer is the ideal character for this title, one that only a handful of your older readers might remember brought up to date. Young and old should enjoy this tale.

Another nice job on the Aquarian story. When is Fabian going to sit still long enough to work on a regular monthly series? I miss his work from the New Universe days!

The Sub-Mariner story was a nice tale which had a wonderful Bill Everett look and feel to it.

Are you beginning to get the picture? I hope so. The concept of this title is ideal for not only reviving long forgotten characters but a great place to introduce new ones (the Coldblood series proved that). Rather than scheduling this book so far ahead in advance, why not find out who it is the readers want to see in this title. I have given you my two cents worth already.

While I realize the necessity for recognizable characters on the covers to help sell this book, I can't help but think that you are overdoing it. I hope that my input can help to shape the future of this title. This book is unique in the world of comics and I want to see it remain that way.

Charles S. Novinskis
P.O. Box 1323
Grand Junction, CO 81502

We hope so too, Charles. And as you probably know by now, we are trying to find out which characters our readers would most want to see (and we're sure that everyone has already mailed in his/her choices by this point), and we'll also consider implementing your other suggestions. Thanks for writing.

Dear Marvel,

I would like to compliment you on MARVEL COMICS PRESENTS #45. I really enjoyed the part when the real Hulk wasted that blond haired guy. I always like humorous comics like that. Oh, and I liked the rest of the issue too.

David Coroland
9065 Peters Rd.
Aglonac, MD 48001

Boy, we neglected to mention that the Hulk happened to knock that blond guy into some part of Maryland. Oh well, don't worry about it, we're sure he won't be too mad. . .



THE SHROUD
FACES OFF
AGAINST
FIREFLY!



BEGINNING
A NEW PHASE
IN THE LIFE OF

WEREWOLF
BY NIGHT...

STINGRAY
VS.
TIGER SHARK —
FOR THE LIFE
OF AN
INNOCENT WOMAN!